



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/538,880	03/30/2000	Meifen Wang	890-003.003	8813

4955 7590 08/19/2003

WARE FRESSOLA VAN DER SLUYS &  
ADOLPHSON, LLP  
BRADFORD GREEN BUILDING 5  
755 MAIN STREET, P O BOX 224  
MONROE, CT 06468

EXAMINER

LEE, DIANE I

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2876

DATE MAILED: 08/19/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/538,880

Applicant(s)

WANG, MEIFEN

Examiner

D. I. Lee

Art Unit

2876

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 October 2002.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2 and 5-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 5,6,9 and 10 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-2, 7-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### DETAILED ACTION

1. Receipt is acknowledged of the Amendment filed 21 October 2002. Claims 1-2, 5-6, and 9-10 have been amended; claims 3-4 have been canceled; no claims have been newly added. Currently, claims 1-2 and 5-10 are pending in the application.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-2 and 7-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Zeitman [US 5,940,481] in view of the prior art admitted by the applicant and Williams [US 6,081,205].

Re claim 1: Zeitman discloses a parking toll system (parking management communication system 10) for parking management system that is achieved through a user interface 20 including a public telephone 22 (i.e., a wired phone), a mobile phone 24, a computer terminal 26 connected to a modem 28 or a computer network (not specifically shown) (see col. 3, lines 12+). The communication system includes billing apparatus 30 for billing a user for use of the parking and the telephone account of the user is charged for use of the parking facility, such as charging the user's telephone account, e.g., the bill is included user's phone bill (see col. 1, lines 56+; col. 2, lines 5+; col. 3, lines 23+; and figure 1). Further, Zeitman teaches the host in the parking arrangement having a PC 12 including a first communication interface 16 connected to a user interface 20 (see figure 2). The first communication interface 16 that includes any type of telephone exchange also includes a mobile phone. Further, Pitman teaches the communication link between the first communication interface 16 and the user interface 20 is a wired or

Art Unit: 2876

wireless communication link, which includes telephone lines, wireless link, communication network system such as the Internet, and/or citizen band radio (see col. 3, lines 12+). Since RS-232 interface is a known industry standard, as defined by the Electronic Industries Association, for transferring digital information between digital and communication equipment, one of ordinary skill in the art would have recognized that the wired communication link of Zeitman between the first communication interface 16 and the user interface 20 obviously encompasses the mobile phone communication box through an RS-232 cable. Zeitman further teaches the parking arrangement system having a communication between the first communication interface 16 and the user interface 20 in a parking facility and that the parking facility be sensed by a sensor such as a optical sensor which reads the vehicle identification data, a card reader to read the user's identification data, and automatically reports the parking of the vehicle to central interface 16 which obviously teaches that the parking facility has a meter or a device with a sensor, a reader, a processing means, and a communication transceiver therein in order to carry out the automatic reporting function, i.e., the user reports parking to central interface unit 16 via user interface unit 20, and wherein the user interface unit 20 includes a public telephone 22, a mobile telephone 24, computer terminal 26 connected to modem 28, or computer network (see col. 3, lines 16+ and col. 4, lines 7+). This clearly teaches the reporting arrangement of the parking at each parking space via a second mobile phone.

Although Zeitman teaches that the operation of parking management system includes a parking facility and a parking lot (see col. 3, lines 53+), he does not explicitly states that the parking toll system comprising an on-street parking toll arrangement and a parking lot toll arrangement.

Applicant admitted that parking toll systems are generally categorized as on-street parking toll and parking lot toll system (see page 1, lines 9+).

It would have been obvious to an artisan of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to recognized that the parking toll system of Zeitman obviously includes a on-street parking toll

Art Unit: 2876

arrangement and a parking lot toll arrangement in order to provide a comprehensive parking management service.

Zeitman teaches the parking reports in the parking facility having a meter-like device with a sensor, a reader, a processing means, and a communication transceiver by the user using the user interfaces such as a public telephone 22, a mobile telephone 24, computer terminal 26 connected to modem 28, or computer network, which obviously teaches the corresponding parking facility includes a detector, a display, a keypad, a second mobile phone.

However, Zeitman as modified by the prior art admitted by the applicant fails to explicitly teach the specifics of the on-street parking toll arrangement such as a plurality of parking meters each located adjacent to a corresponding parking space as recited in the claim.

Williams discloses a plurality of electronic parking meters 30, 130 each located adjacent to a corresponding parking space including a microprocessor 32, 148, a display 18, 136, a keypad 20, 120, and a transmitter-responding means 34, 146 which serves as a second mobile phone, and a vehicle presence sensor 61 (see col. 3, lines 15+; col. 5, lines 38+; and figures 1-4).

In view of Williams' teaching, it would have been an obvious to an artisan of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the parking meter device in the system of Zeitman as modified by the prior art admitted by the applicant in order to provide a meter that has an input device that is interconnected to the controller for greater input function capability and an output that gives a visual information to the user.

Re claim 2: Zeitman teaches a parking toll system having a controller (control unit 12) for transmitting and receiving the data via a central interface unit 16 and a user interface 20 including a public telephone 22 (i.e., a wired phone), a mobile phone 24, a computer terminal 26 connected to a modem 28 or a computer network (see col. 3, lines 12+), which obviously teaches that the communication

Art Unit: 2876

provided by the telephone company is employed by the controller for transmitting and receiving data (see figure 2).

Zeitman does not explicitly teach the SMS, WAP, GPSR, and MLS are provided by telephone company and are employed by the controller for transmitting and receiving data.

Applicant stated a plurality communication system employed by a mobile phone company such as GSM, CDMA, TDMA, AMPS each provided with a data service equipment including SMS, WAP, GPSR, MLS (see page 2, lines 20+).

It would have been an obvious to an artisan of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employed the existing data service equipment available by the telephone company in the system of Zeitman in order to extend the communication capability of the parking toll system. Therefore such modification would have been an obvious extension taught by Zeitman.

Re claims 7-8: Zeitman teaches the parking facility toll arrangement includes the user reports parking to central interface unit 16 via user interface unit 20 using his or her mobile telephone 24 providing vehicle identification, user identity, parking facility identification number, time of parking, and etc. (see col. 4, lines 7+).

***Allowable Subject Matter***

4. Claims 5-6 and 9-10 are allowed.

5. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: Although Zeithman teaches the process of the user reports parking to central interface unit 16 via user interface unit 20 providing user identity via his/her mobile telephone 24 and the use of the parking facility is charged to the user's telephone account, Zeitman, alone or in combination with other references, fails to teach or fairly suggest the specifics of the parking lot toll arrangement, i.e., a host having a low carrier frequency device, a fist digital coder/decoder connected to a mobile phone communication box through RS-232

Art Unit: 2876

cable, an entrance monitor at the entrance of the parking lot including a first card reader, first display, a first processor, and a voicer, an exit monitor in communication with the host including third processor, display, an infrared detector, a second low frequency device, and a second digital CODEC; and on-street parking toll arrangement with the specific operating process having the user inputting the mobile phone number through the keypad of the parking meter to activate the system after validated by the telephone company, as set forth in the claims.

### *Response to Arguments*

6. Applicant's arguments filed 21 October 2002 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

7. Applicant stated that the non-final Office Action's citation of the central interface unit 16 of Zeitman serving as a first mobile phone connected to a mobile phone communication box through RS232 cable is incorrect because Zeitman is silent concerning a first mobile phone connected to a mobile phone communication box through an RS-232 (see page 7, lines 1+). The examiner respectfully disagrees. Zeitman teaches the host in the parking arrangement having a PC 12 including a first communication interface 16 connected to a user interface 20 (see figure 2). The first communication interface 16 that includes any type of telephone exchange also includes a mobile phone. Further, Pitman teaches the communication link between the first communication interface 16 and the user interface 20 is a wired or wireless communication link, which includes telephone lines, wireless link, communication network system such as the Internet, and/or citizen band radio (see col. 3, lines 12+). Since RS-232 interface is a known industry standard, as defined by the Electronic Industries Association, for transferring digital information between digital and communication equipment, one of ordinary skill in the art would have recognized that the wired communication link of Zeitman between the first communication interface 16

Art Unit: 2876

and the user interface 20 obviously encompasses the mobile phone communication box through an RS-232 cable (see col. 3, lines 16+).

8. In response to applicant's argument with respect to Williams patent which differs from the present invention, and further stated that the meters 20 and 40 of the present invention are enabling the user to activate the system by inputting a mobile phone number through the keypad of the parking meters 20 and 40 after being validated by telephone company (see page 8, lines 6+). Claim only recites the structure of the parking meter. The specific features which applicant relies (i.e., the specific structure of the parking meter used to enable the user to activate the system by inputting a mobile phone number through the keypad of the parking meters) are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988, F. 2d 1181, 26USPQ 2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

### ***Conclusion***

9. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

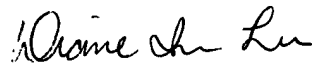


Art Unit: 2876

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to D. I. Lee whose telephone number is 703-306-3427. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 5:30 AM to 4:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael G. Lee can be reached on 703-305-3503. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-308-7722 for regular communications and 703-308-7722 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0956.

  
D. I. Lee  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2876

August 12, 2003